Parking facility for commercial aircrafts

581. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that infrastructure constraints and a huge addition of new planes are slated to make the year 2007 a nightmare for the airline business in India;

(b) whether it is also a fact that over the next two years 200 large commercial aircrafts will be inducted by airlines in the country but there is no place to park them; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take to improve the infrastructure at the airports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. Airports Authority of India (AAI) has planned construction of 206 additional parking stands at various airports.

Open sky agreement with ASEAN countries

582. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ASEAN countries have invited India to participate in open sky regime;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) During his meeting with the Hon'ble Prime Minister in January, 2006 the Singapore Prime Minister suggested that India might consider joining the ASEAN-wide Open Skies Agreement, in future. The matter is under examination. However, the Government is ready to have a dialogue with ASEAN authorities to take the issue forward.